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those contributing the highest percentage to be in all cases preferred in order.

7. In all cases where a municipality contributes fifty per centum or more of the estimated cost of abolishing the breeding places for salt-marsh mosquitoes within its jurisdiction, the work may be done by the municipality as other work is done under its direction, and the amount set aside as provided in section six may be paid to the treasurer or other disbursing officer of such municipality for use in completing the work; but no payment shall be made to such treasurer or other disbursing officer until the amount appropriated by the municipality has been actually expended, nor until a certificate has been filed by the director or his executive officer stating that the work already done is satisfactory and sufficient to obtain the desired result, and that the arrangements made for its completion are proper and can be carried out for the sum awarded.

8. In all investigations made under section two of this act the report to be made to the board of health requesting the survey shall state what mosquitoes were found in the territory complained of, whether they are local breeders or migrants from other points, and, in the case of migrants, their probable source, whether the territory in question is dangerous or a nuisance because of mosquito breeding, the character of the work necessary to abate such nuisance and abolish the breeding places, and the probable cost of the work. Said board of health must then proceed to abolish the breeding places found under the general powers of such boards, but if it shall appear that the necessary cost of the work shall equal or exceed the value of the land without increasing its taxable value, such board may apply to the director aforesaid, who may, if he deems the matter of sufficient public interest, contribute to the cost of the necessary work, provided that not more than fifty per centum of the amount shall be contributed in any case, and not more than five hundred dollars in any one municipality.

9. All moneys contributed or set aside out of the amount appropriated in this act by the director of the agricultural experiment station in accordance with its provisions shall be paid out by the comptroller of the state upon the certificate of said director that all the conditions and requirements of this act have been complied with, and in the case provided for in section five payments shall be made to the contractor upon a statement by the person in charge of the work, as therein prescribed, attested by said director, showing the amount due and that the work has

been completed in accordance with the specifications of his contract.

10. For the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, the said director of the state agricultural experiment station shall have power to expend such amount of money, annually, as may be appropriated by the legislature; *provided*, that the aggregate sum appropriated for the purposes of this act shall not exceed three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The comptroller of the state shall draw his warrant in payment of all bills approved by the director of the state experiment station, and the treasurer of the state shall pay all warrants so drawn to the extent of the amount appropriated by the legislature.

11. This act shall take effect November first, one thousand nine hundred and six.

Approved April 20, 1906.

The appropriation bill makes only \$13,500 of the total amount available for the fiscal year beginning November 1, 1906, and as that date is so near to the close of the season that little if anything can be done before the marshes freeze up, the beginning of actual work will probably be delayed until the spring of 1907.

JOHN B. SMITH.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.,

May 23, 1906.

#### THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS.

THE assembly which convened on May 15 at the American Museum of Natural History in New York for the purpose of organizing an association of the museums of North and South America, was very largely attended. Among those who came from great distances in order to testify to their interest in the movement were Mr. W. A. Bryan, of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Honolulu; Mr. J. E. Talmage, of the Deseret Museum, Salt Lake City; Professor E. H. Barbour, of the University of Nebraska; and Mr. P. M. Rea, of the Museum of the College of Charleston, S. C. The Field Museum of Chicago, the Art Institute of Chicago, the St. Louis Public Museum, the various museums and art institutions of Boston and vicinity, the museums of various kinds located in the vicinity of New York, as well as the museums of

Philadelphia, Pittsburg and other leading cities, were well represented.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M., by Dr. W. J. Holland, and upon his motion Dr. Hermon C. Bumpus, the director of the American Museum of Natural History, was made temporary chairman. Dr. George A. Dorsey, of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, was made temporary secretary. A committee on permanent organization, consisting of Dr. W. J. Holland, of the Carnegie Museum; Dr. Wm. M. R. French, of the Art Institute of Chicago; Professor P. M. Rea, of the College of Charleston; Dr. James E. Talmage, of the Deseret Museum of Salt Lake City; and Dr. W. P. Wilson, of the Philadelphia Commercial Museums, was appointed.

Many interesting papers were read and discussed. Luncheon was served at the American Museum of Natural History during the first day's session.

The second session, held on May 16, convened at the Museum of the New York Botanical Garden in Bronx Park. A final organization was effected by the election by ballot of Dr. Hermon C. Bumpus as president, Dr. Wm. M. R. French as first vice-president and Dr. W. J. Holland as second vice-president. Dr. George A. Dorsey was chosen secretary and Dr. W. P. Wilson treasurer. Councilors were elected as follows: To serve for three years—Dr. Richard Rathbun, of the United States National Museum; Professor E. S. Morse, of the Peabody Academy of Sciences, Salem, Mass. To serve for two years—Dr. N. L. Britton, of the New York Botanical Garden; Professor J. E. Talmage, of the Deseret Museum, Salt Lake City. To serve for one year—Mr. F. A. Lucas and Dr. Wm. H. Goodyear, both of the Brooklyn Institute.

The officers and the six councilors constitute the council of the association, which formally assumed the name of 'The American Association of Museums.' A temporary constitution was adopted. All persons who were present and participated in the meeting, as well as all persons who by letter had signified their adhesion to the movement, were by formal

vote constituted charter members. This gives the association a large membership at the outset, which it is hoped will be very rapidly increased.

It is provided in the constitution that *all* those who are *actively engaged in the work of museums* may become '*active members*' of the association upon payment of the sum of two dollars annually.

*Museums contributing not less than ten dollars per annum* may become '*sustaining members*,' and shall be entitled to vote through their chief executive officers, if present at the meeting, or by a formally appointed delegate.

Provision is made in the temporary constitution for '*associate members*,' consisting of *those who are not actively engaged in the work of museums*; '*honorary members*,' the number of whom shall be restricted to fifteen, and '*patrons*.'

Active members may upon payment of thirty dollars at one time be exempt thereafter from the payment of annual dues.

It is proposed to initiate, so soon as the way may be clear to do so, a journal, or publication, in the interest of museums.

A very gratifying feature was the receipt of a number of letters from the heads of museums in South America, giving in their adhesion to the movement. A congratulatory telegram from Dr. W. E. Hoyle, on behalf of the British Museums Association, was received with much applause.

A rising vote of thanks was given to Dr. W. J. Holland for his services in bringing about the formation of the society.

The luncheon given by the New York Botanical Garden to the delegates, at 'the Hermitage,' near Bronx Park, was a most delightful affair, and Dr. Hermon C. Bumpus and Dr. N. L. Britton won the hearts of all by their most gracious hospitality.

The gathering was declared by all who were present to be most successful, and it is doubtful whether any movement for the formation of an international association of this kind has ever been larger or more enthusiastic.

The association adjourned to meet at the call of the council in the spring or early sum-

mer of 1907 at the Carnegie Museum in the city of Pittsburg.

THE ITHACA MEETING OF THE AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCE-  
MENT OF SCIENCE.

EXCURSIONS.

THE surroundings of Ithaca in summer are peculiarly attractive and it is proposed to make short trips to neighboring points of interest a feature of the coming meeting.

Some sections intend to make this essentially a field meeting and the local committee on excursions has arranged the following list of expeditions for their benefit.

*Botanical Excursions.*—Friday morning, June 29, a brief excursion in the immediate vicinity of Ithaca.

Saturday, June 30, an all day excursion to the morainic region near Cortland, to visit the peat-bog formations and also the marl ponds. This excursion will be by rail or by carriage.

Monday, July 2, an all day excursion to Enfield Gorge some five miles from the university. The conveyance will be by carriages and tally-hos.

Details of these excursions will be given in the program of Section G.

*Chemical Excursions.*—Thursday, June 28, excursions in charge of several committees have been arranged from 4 to 6 P.M., to visit various points of interest in the buildings and upon the grounds of the university.

Friday, June 29, an afternoon excursion has been arranged for the members of the Chemical Society in the nature of a boat ride on Cayuga Lake with dinner at Sheldrake.

*Geological Excursions.*—Friday, June 29, an excursion conducted by Mr. R. H. Whitbeck to Turkey Hill, by carriage or on foot, for a general view of surface geology. A paper on 'Cycles of Erosion' will be read by Mr. P. F. Gulliver.

Saturday, June 30, an all day excursion to points of interest about the south end of Cayuga Lake will be conducted by Professor G. D. Harris.

Monday, July 2, Professor Harris will conduct a party to the points of interest at the

north end of Cayuga Lake, including a visit to Cayuga to see the lowest rocks exposed in this region, *i. e.*, the Eurypteris beds, and other points of interest. A printed guide to the region will be furnished *gratis* to each member by the conductor.

Tuesday, July 3, an excursion to Enfield Glen by carriage will be conducted by Mr. Whitbeck, and a paper on the geography of the region will be read by Professor C. R. Dryer.

Fuller details of these excursions will be printed in the preliminary announcement and in the programs of the sections.

*Excursion to the George Junior Republic.*—This excursion will be arranged at the time most convenient to the visitors and will be of both general and special interest.

Opportunities will be afforded also to visit Taughannock Falls, the highest water fall in the state of New York, Enfield Falls and other of the numerous glens in the vicinity of Ithaca.

Steamers make two round trips daily, Sundays included, the entire length of Cayuga Lake. Watkin's Glen may be reached by rail, *via* Geneva or by a twenty-mile carriage drive from Ithaca.

The excursion announced above by the American Chemical Society on Friday afternoon will take place after the dedication of the new Physical Laboratory.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. JOHN M. CLARKE, of Albany, and Dr. J. J. Sederholm, director of the Geological Survey of Finland, have been elected foreign correspondents of the Geological Society of London.

PROFESSOR DAVID HILBERT, of Göttingen, and Professor Wilhelm Ostwald, have been elected honorary members of the Academy of Sciences at Copenhagen.

THE University of Göttingen has awarded the income of the Valbruch foundation of the value of \$3,000 to Professor Ossian Aschan, of Helsingfors, for his work on the alicyclic compounds.